Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

~~Method of annotating an item with electronic data and apparatus therefor~~

Abstract

A method [[of]] and apparatus for annotating an item with electronic data ~~is described which comprises securing~~ secures a memory tag to the item[[, the]]. The memory tag ~~having~~ has a memory and a transponder to enable wireless communication with the memory tag, and ~~having~~ has an external dimension D. The memory tag is adapted for wireless communication only with a transceiver located within a distance of 10D of the memory tag.

~~Also described is apparatus for annotating an item with electronic data wherein the apparatus comprises a memory tag which in use is secured to the item, and a transceiver for wireless communication with the memory tag. The memory tag includes a memory and a transponder, and has an external dimension D. The memory tag and transceiver are adapted for wireless communication therebetween only when the transceiver is located within a distance of 10D of the memory tag.~~